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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kumar et al. Art Unit : Unknown
Serial No. : To be determined Examiner : Unknown
Filed : March 26, 2002
Title : MODULATE APTAMER AND METHOD OF DETECTING TARGET
PROTEIN BY USING THE SAME

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Amend claim 5, 12, and 14 as follows:

-- 5. (Amended) The modulate aptamer according to claim 1, wherein the target protein is HIV-1 Tat protein and/or a fragment thereof.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the immobilization is by specific binding between avidin or streptoavidin and biotin.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the target protein is an HIV-1 Tat protein and/or a fragment thereof. --


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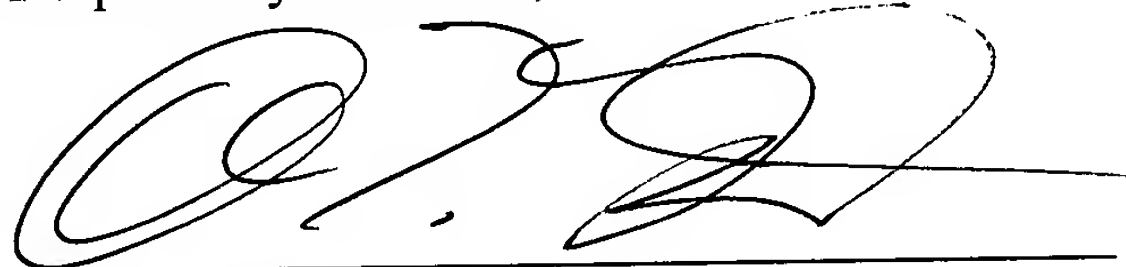
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REMARKS

Claims 5, 12, and 14 have been amended to eliminate multiple-on-multiple dependencies. Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment. Applicant asks that all claims be examined. If necessary, please apply charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 26, 2002

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